PRESENT—*cont.*

Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
Wood, Mr. C. E.
Wright, Mr. W. O.
Zamindar of Kallikota (Sri Ramachandra Mardaraja Deo).
Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja Garu alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao Bahadur Garu).

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Demonstration of new methods of jaggery-making in Hospet taluk.

* 1788 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of attempts made by the Department of Agriculture to demonstrate better methods of jaggery-making in sugarcane areas of Hospet taluk, Bellary district, and the years in which these efforts were made;

(b) how many of the above efforts were successful and how long they were continued;

(c) how much jaggery of better sort was made in the different years;

(d) whether any ryots in Hospet taluk are now using or have ever successfully used in the last eight years new furnaces and new methods of jaggery-making; and

(e) whether the Government propose to demonstrate new furnaces and methods of jaggery-making this year?

A.—(a) Demonstrations of better methods of jaggery-making have been conducted in Hospet taluk from the year 1922. They were conducted in three different centres in the years 1922 and 1923. Sindwahi furnaces were constructed at Chitwadigai and Kampli in the year 1927–28 and the method of preparing jaggery was shown to the ryots.

(b) All the efforts were successful and demonstrations were continued as long as the ryots came forward to supply juice to conduct demonstrations during the season. In the year 1927–28 the work was done for 10 days.

(c) One hundred and sixteen maunds of jaggery were prepared in 1927–28. Figures for the previous years are not available.

(d) No. Ryots have not adopted the improvements for the following reasons:—

(i) quality of jaggery is at present of little consideration and so good jaggery does not, as a rule, fetch better price than the local jaggery;

(ii) merchants discourage ryots taking up the improvements lest the department trespass on their monopoly of dealing with them as they like;

(iii) merchants, who are the suppliers of local made jaggery pans to ryots, fear that the introduction of new pans suited to the improved furnaces will free the ryots from their clutches;

20th March 1929]

(iv) local pans of thick sheet iron, which last for many years, are now used and the ryots are reluctant to purchase new pans suitable for the new furnace when they have old ones; and

(v) preparation of jaggery is done by professional contractors who control the sugarcane growers and they discourage them from taking up the improvement.

(e) Yes. Work has already been started at Chitwadigai and it will be taken up at Kampli and Kamalapuram in the course of the year. The department will persist in the work by studying local conditions and adopting the necessary improvements and in educating the ryots to overcome the commercial and labour interests. In course of time it should be possible to create a demand for better jaggery when the full benefits of the departmental method will be realized and appreciated. It is only question of time.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, if similar attempts are made in other parts of the Presidency than the Bellary district?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"I think there is one at Coimbatore."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, if similar attempts are made in other parts of the Bellary district?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Notice."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether the Minister for Development will institute enquiries to see as to whether portions of the Kurnool district do not require such an experiment?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"That will be done."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know the expenditure involved in these demonstrations?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Notice."

Work done by the Livestock section of the Department of Agriculture.

* 1789 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the object with which the Livestock section of the Department of Agriculture was established;

(b) how far this object has been achieved;

(c) how many stud bulls, buffalo bulls and rams have been placed by the department either by sale or otherwise for breeding purposes in each of the last five years in the Ceded districts and in the Bellary district;

(d) what breeds of cattle have been recommended by the department as best suited for Ceded districts—

(i) for draft purposes,
(ii) for milk and
(iii) for both purposes; and

(e) whether the Government farms in the Ceded districts are keeping for their use typical draft bullocks and dual purpose cows and bulls?